

Belfair State Park Classification and Management Planning (CAMP) Project

Public Comments

Natural Resource Issues

- Salmon/near shore health/habitat
- Recovery and maintain public access
- Water quality remediation.
- Tie in restoration with septic with park improvements
- Maintaining public shore access
- Promote protection/valuing resources/restoration project trade-offs
- Interpretation
- Year-round access
- Water trail campsites
- Audubon Olympic Peninsula loop (map) migratory birds
- Return to natural state
- Clean up pollution
- Preserve beautiful forest area that can be used by campers and walkers.
- Keep dispensers of "dogipot" bags and garbage cans with fitted lids nearby.
- Lack of coordination between lead trust, Salmon fishing groups, and HCCC.
- Not sure if ecological impacts are being looked at closely.
- WIRA 16 coordination should be important for State Parks
- What can be done about the old, sick oysters?
- Tell the community what the restoration plan involves, to include costs, timeframe, and outcomes. Then ascertain if there is broad-based public support.
- Public scoping process should happen before any grant funds are awarded particularly with Hood Canal cleanup funds.
- Belfair restoration project.
- Hope for the Lower Hood Canal is education, demonstration, and utilization to recycle public's waste.
- Clearly marked collection bins for specific contents; aluminum, glass, plastic containers, newspapers, food scraps for composts, cans, etc.
- Hope for the Lower Hood Canal is education, demonstration, and utilization of a "Stewardship Program" to prevent pollution of streams flowing into Hood Canal.
- Establish local stewardship programs considering partnerships with neighbors, local schools and community groups to utilize parks in non-peak seasons.
- Learn about sea life in the area.
- Septic systems were not meant to handle what they are per Mason County septic study.
- Protection of public health
- Cleaner water for shellfish
- Harvest oysters or partnership with shellfish growers to move oysters to "clean" beaches.
- Surprised that most of the canal was dead...unable to crab or get shrimp.
- Had to drive a ways to get oysters and not a lot of people seemed to know that.
- Would like to call and check crabbing, shrimp, etc. ahead of time.
- Waters around the park are polluted.

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Cultural Resource Issues

- Winter village site.
- How to interpret to public, assess, inform, identify?
- Template from Skokomish.
- Education partnership (WDFW, DOH, Tribes) DOT cultural corridors program
- Tie interpretation into recreation and history of whole area and economic development of area
- Interpretive signage cultural (native) info.
- Involve local tribes and WRIA's in planning process.
- Amphitheatre to learn about the area, movies or speeches like they do at Cape Disappointment State Park. Learn how to start fires without matches, etc.
- Navy could do presentations.
- Learn history of area in amphitheatre, i.e. tribes, etc.

Recreation Issues

- More bike trails.
- Playground equipment.
- Tie into Theler wetlands trail system
- Think about recreation opportunities in winter
- Places for events/congregation
- Trail connection to DNR Tahuya (Little Mission?)
- Mountain bikes
- More recreational opportunities
- Beaches
- Trails
- More programs for the community.
- More beach access
- Connection to wetlands.
- Camping facilities.
- Any more spaces for walking would be great (on existing property or purchased property)
- We need places you can walk with dogs on leash and pick up after them.
- Given the number of campsites (181), and need of local community for open space and play areas consider enlarging size of day use area possibly through land acquisition to the north or west.
- Uses in day use area could include tennis courts, soccer, kite-flying, dog walking.
- Need swimming area free of oysters.
- Establish trail from park to Theler.
- Basketball court.
- There seems to be a swimming area designated but usually there is no water.
- Shallow wading pool for the kids to use.
- Tennis courts.
- Ball fields

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- Large open field for many different activities.
- Waterfront trail to the Theler trail system.
- Connect the trails from Theler to a trail system at Belfair State Park
- Most sites are hard to maneuver if you are towing anything..
- The park would benefit from more beach sites, maybe in the grass field adjoining current beach sites.
- Nice to have a swimming area that is not a mud pit.
- A dock and add some rocks to the beach to alleviate some of the muddiness would help. Maybe add sand?
- More hookup sites near the beach.
- Had to go 150 miles home because there wasn't 110v hookup.
- Not enough to do at park.
- Better facilities for activities.
- Better horse shoe pits
- RV accessible sites, not necessarily hook ups.
- Year round camping.
- Wading pool cleaned up
- Campsite improvements
- More service sites adjacent to the water like site #T11.
- Basketball courts and nets.
- Getting cable might be a nice idea.
- Some kind of get togethers sort of like KOA's do.
- Many of the beach sites have standing water in the off season that make them unusable.
- Swimming hole is worse than it was 25 years ago.
- Love to see swimming hole improved or even a pool or wading area put in.

Long-Term Boundary Issues

- LTB Cherokee Beach WDFW site west of park
- Convenience store/RV park (group camp?)
- Port Allyn boat launch
- Any more spaces for walking would be great (on existing property or purchased property)
- Expand to include more campsites in land State Parks acquired on the north side.

Management Issues

- Improving opportunities for local community members to contribute time or money directly into our regional parks.
- Hold an annual winter cleanup day.
- Like the bathrooms to be a bit cleaner.
- More ranger incentive to discourage drug dealing in park.
- Loud people and excessive traffic noises all night cut 3 day camping trip to 1 day.
- Theft/vandalism issue.

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- Disheartened to see the condition (or lack of) tree care in this park. A day or two of pruning the shore pines would remedy poor condition of trees. Maybe an Arbor Day volunteer event or something.

Facilities Issues

- More showers and restrooms.
- Concession to reduce traffic.
- Upgrade sanitary facilities
- Inform local community what the potential costs will be to them to hook up to a sewer system. Tell community what concerns, if any, there are with the recent upgrades to the park's system.
- More signs for bathrooms
- Showers are sometimes dirty or broken.
- More hooks to hang things on in the bathrooms.
- Hoodsport and Belfair sewer projects
- Parking is horrible.

Miscellaneous Issues

- Remove fee – DONE
- No day use parking fees
- Make things affordable for senior citizens
- Preserve open meadow space for medic shopper and air lift patients.
- Need to maintain large enough site for medivac helicopters.
- Improve state highway 300 to include bicycle lane.
- Cheaper showers.
- Cheaper parking rates for extra cars.
- Reservation people need to have better updates on size of sites and activities that are open in area.
- Too many fees, i.e. parking, fishing, etc.
- Would it be possible to set up a labor "account" in exchange for camping fees, i.e. boy scouts, etc.
- Objectionable is the additional vehicle parking fee (\$10 per day!) that just seems too much.
- How about just a \$5 fee for additional vehicle parking.
- Everything gets pretty expensive with all the added fees and rate increases.
- Traffic noise is terrible.
- Have to pay \$10 per night for car with motorhome.
- Belfair is quite nice and don't see it really needing any changes.